CHRISTIAN STATESMAN

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The Kingship of Jesus Christ

J. RENWICK PATTERSON

Christ is KING. He has authority in heaven and on earth. Just prior to His ascension our Lord said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18. He was given authority over all that there is. When all the ideas involved in our Christian faith are made to converge at one point, in one primary and all-inclusive idea, that idea takes the form of the Kingship of Jesus Christ. The sovereignty of God and the Kingship of Jesus Christ are corollary doctrines. They belong together—they merge into one—yet in such a way that there is a distinction.

The Kingship of Jesus Christ presupposes everything that He is. It presupposes His deity, His incarnation, His messianic office, His death, His resurrection, His ascension and His exaltation. It is not on the basis of any one of these alone, but on all of them, in grand and total concept, that His Kingship rests.

The Apostle Paul, in writing the first chapter of his epistle to the Ephesians, was carried by the Spirit into an ecstasy of eloquence as he expressed his desire that they might comprehend the significance of the Kingship of the Lord Jesus Christ. His prayer was that God would give them the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, that their understanding might be enlightened, so that they would know the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, the exceeding greatness of His power toward believers, the working of His power in being raised from the dead and set at the right hand of the Father of glory in heavenly places, far above all principality and power, far above all might and dominion, far above every name that is named—not only in this world, but also in that which is to come; who has had all things put under His feet, and who has been given the Headship over all things, even of the Church, which is His body, and which is also His satisfaction and fullness. All of this the Father has given to Jesus Christ our Lord, our King—the One who filleth all in all. He is the first and the last—the beginning and the ending—the Alpha and the Omega—the WORD—the PERSON in whom the total creative idea of God is embodied, the One by Whom all things were created, the One who upholds all things by the word of His power. He is the ultimate end of all that has ever been, that is, or that shall ever be. On the basis of all that He is, in His person, and in His work, He has been given a name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue confess. This is the King of kings and the Lord of lords who is seated at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Bring forth a just and loving King who is loved, honored and respected by his subjects and they will gladly obey him and with joy lay down their lives for him. Such a King we have in Jesus, and those who have been rescued from the guilt and curse of sin by His redemptive grace find their joy and satisfaction in daily dying unto self in order that they may live for Him to the glory of God.

As King, he reigns over all of life. He is Lord of the individual life, Head of the Church, and King of nations, and is to be so recognized by each. It is His Kingship that gives meaning to the ten commandments in our day. Our morality finds its essence and compelling motive in Him. He being the compelling motive in the Christian faith for morality keeps it from relapsing into legalism. The emphasis is taken from the "Thou shalt not" and put in a faith which has its ethics and morality based on the commandments, but

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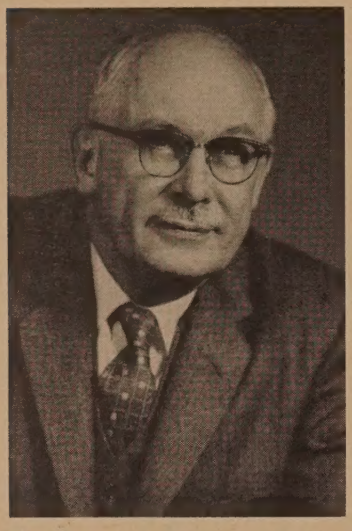
Dr. W. W. McKinney Elected President of the National Reform Association

Dr. William Wilson McKinney was unanimously elected to the Presidency of the National Reform Association at its annual meeting on the evening of November 15th. His election was ratified by the Board of Directors at their regular meeting on December 3rd.



Dr. McKinney is pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Ambridge, Pa., where he has been serving for the the past 28 years. Previous to that he was pastor of the Round Hill Presbyterian Church at Elizabeth, Pa., for 9 years. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with degrees A.B., A.M., and Ph.D. He is also a graduate of the Western Theological Seminary with the B.D. degree and from Auburn Seminary with the B.S.T. degree. In 1940 he received the D.D. degree from Grove City College.

He has been very active in the affairs of his denomination and three times served as Moderator of the Beaver Presbytery and in 1940 was Moderator of the Synod of Pennsylvania.

He has written extensively in the field of Church History and is the author of two books including "Early Pittsburgh Presbyterianism." He is a frequent contributor to church publications and has written a number of articles which have appeared in "The Statesman." He is President of the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Upper Ohio Valley, the Beaver County Historical Society and is Vice President of the Sabbath Association of Western Pennsylvania.

He has long been identified with the work of the National Reform Association where he has been a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President for a number of years. He represented the Association in a course of lectures at Winona Bible School. He is the Secretary of the Christian Amendment Movement and has spoken frequently on behalf of that cause. He has also manifested a great interest in youth work and for two years was the Pastor Counselor of the Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor Union and for a number of years has occupied a similar position in Beaver County Union. In July, 1950 he was a delegate to the 11th Convention of the World's Christian Endeavor Union in London and also to the Pacific Area Conference in 1952 at Honolulu.

The election of Dr. McKinney to the Presidency of the National Reform Association was in keeping with the adoption of a recommendation from the Board of Directors that the By-Laws be changed to provide for the election of a President who would serve without salary and whose duties would be to preside at all meetings of the Association, and that the executive duties formerly assigned to the President be conferred upon the Executive Secretary.

This is a return to the policy followed by the Association from its founding until in the late twenties when the duties of the president and the executive officer were combined in one office. Prior to this time the head executive in the office carried the title of General Superintendent.

It was felt that a return to the former policy would bring the administration of the Association into line with other similar organizations and would provide for its more democratic operation. The Association is highly honored in having Dr. McKinney for its President under this new organizational arrangement.

DR. FRANK H. LATHOM ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT

Dr. Frank H. Lathom, pastor of the College Hill Reformed Presbyterian Church, Beaver Falls, Pa., was elected vice-president of the National Reform Association, the office formerly held by Dr. W. W. McKinney, who was elected president.

Dr. Lathom served as pastor of the Walton, New York Reformed Presbyterian Church for 25 years before coming to the College Hill Church some four years ago.

Dr. Lathom has been particularly interested in Religious Education, Week-Day Bible Instruction and Daily Vacation Bible Schools, and organized the entire Delaware County for such instruction during his pastorate in Walton, and supervised such instruction throughout the county for many years.

The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Geneva College, his alma mater.

Dr. Lathom has been serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Association since coming to Beaver Falls, and has long been interested in the cause for which the Association stands. He is well qualified for the office to which he has been elected and is heartily welcomed into the official family of the Association.

NINETY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

More than seventy persons attended the 93rd annual dinner and meeting of the National Reform Association which was held on the evening of November 15th in the Community House, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The evening was enhanced by the clever wit and occasional sleight-of-hand performances of C. Brainerd Metheny, LL.D., General Agent of the Pittsburgh office of the Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Company who was the toastmaster.

The very able speaker was the Rev. Donald A. Spencer, D.D., pastor of the Hebron United Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh. Dr. Spencer, who has held pastorates in both the North and the South, was able to draw on this experience in a very informative manner in his address on "The Rising Tide of Color."

Miss Evelyn G. Martin, soprano member of the Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary Choir, entertained in her very delightful manner in song.

Rev. W. W. McKinney, D.D., vice-president, pastor of the Ambridge, Pa., Presbyterian Church, presided during the business meeting. Reports were heard from the treasurer, the auditor, the secretary of the Board, and from the committee on resolutions. Dr. W. W. McKinney was elected President of the Association and Dr. Frank H. Lathom, Vice-President. Knox M. Young, treasurer, Chester R. Fox, assistant treasurer, and Rev. Kermit S. Edgar, secretary, were elected to succeed themselves. The following persons were elected to succeed themselves on the Board of Directors for a term of three years: Rev. Frank H. Lathom, D.D., Rev. John H. Gerstner, Ph.D., Rev. Delber H. Elliott, D.D., Rev. Kenneth G. Smith, J. Ramsey Cutler, Knox M. Young, Chester R. Fox, and H. W. Jones.

Rev. J. Renwick Patterson, D.D., Executive Secretary, in reporting to the Association, called attention to some of the encouraging signs in connection with the work and pointed out that according to the Annual Statistical Review, published by the Distilled Spirits Institute for the year 1955, more than 16% of the population, based on the 1950 census, and more than 25% of the counties of the United States are now dry by local option on distilled spirits. That is one reason he gave for encouragement. Another is the strong sentiment which he said is developing against the alcoholic beverage makers' invasion of the home with advertisements of alcoholic beverages by means of newspapers, magazines, radio and television. He spoke of the enthusiastic response there has been to the Association's Crusade Against Liquor Advertising and Beer-casting, and of the interest that has developed regarding the "Sticker-On-A-Liquor-Ad" campaign against such advertising in magazines and newspapers.

Dr. Patterson emphasized the need for continued reform efforts along other lines in which the Association is engaged, including the protection of the Christian Sabbath, the use of the Bible in the public schools, and the strengthening of other Christian features in our national and governmental life. He said that the over-all objective of the Association is to Christianize America in keeping with the declaration of the Supreme Court in the famous Trinity Church case that "This is a CHRISTIAN nation."

The Rev. Renwick H. Martin, D.D., President-Emeritus, who for 27 years prior to his retirement a year ago had served as President and chief executive of the Association, gave the closing prayer and benediction.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS TO THE 93rd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION NOVEMBER 15, 1956

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, the Head of the Church and King of nations, we bow humbly before, God, the Great Sovereign of the Universe who has declared in his Word: "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

Remembering that he has said, "The nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted," and with the earnest desire that our nation shall become a truly Christian nation and turn from the sins of which she is guilty, we offer the following resolutions:

I. Recognizing the faithful supervision and oversight the National Reform Association has received over the past year, and thankful for the doors of opportunity that have opened to the work, we express our most sincere gratitude to the officers of the Association and members of the Board of Directors for the time and effort they have so freely given in the promotion of the interest and work of the Association. We commend Rev. J. Renwick Patterson, D.D., Executive Secretary, for bringing the first year of his leadership in the work to a successful conclusion, in keeping with the tradition of those who preceded him in this responsibility, and pledge to him our continued interest, loyalty, prayers and support.

II. Believing that the liquor traffic and the use

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THE CHRISTIAN STATESMAN
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE ADVERTISING

The producers of alcoholic beverages spent at least $275,000,000 in advertising in 1955 to sell a total of 2,977,972,501 gallons of distilled spirits, wine and beer to the people of the United States at a cost to the consumers of $10,099,000,000.

According to the Research Company of America which makes a yearly survey of the brewing industry, as reported in the August 6, 1956 issue of *Advertising Age*, the brewers spent approximately $150,000,000 in advertising in 1955 to sell 84,974,639 barrels of beer. According to this same source, the large brewers spent $2.00 per barrel and the smaller brewers about $1.50 per barrel in advertising.

The liquor manufacturers spent, according to our estimate, $100,000,000 in advertising in 1955. This figure is based upon the fact that $41,055,000 was spent by the distillers in newspaper, $27,324,639 in magazine, $9,790,000 in outdoor, and $1,012,488 in transportation advertising, (source: Media Records, The Liquor Handbook, Outdoor Advertising, Inc.) These figures total $79,182,127. Point of sale advertising alone would bring this figure to $100,000,000. Corrado's Liquor Handbook gave $18,163,354 as the point of sale liquor advertising figure for 1954. The figure for 1955 would not be less. This leaves unmentioned various other media used in liquor advertising. The total figure is, we think, many millions above this estimate.

The vinters spent more than $10,000,000 in advertising in 1955, according to Alfred Fromm, executive vice-president from Fromm & Sichel, Inc., world agents for the Christian Bros. Winery, Napa, California in a talk at the annual Wine Day Luncheon of the Los Angeles Advertising Club, to sell a total of 144,187,753 gallons of wine.

These figures total $260,000,000. The total outlay for such advertising is much higher than this figure which does not include costs involved in ad production, advertising agency fees, nor does it contain the amounts spent in various other forms of advertising media not mentioned above. We believe it to be conservative, on the basis of the above data, to place our estimate of the total amount spent in the advertising of alcoholic beverages in this country in 1955 at $275,000,000.

A NEW FEATURE

Arrangements have been made with Professor David M. Carson, head of the Department of Political Science at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., to provide a regular column for the CHRISTIAN STATESMAN. He has chosen 'From The Study Window' as the caption under which he will write. The column begins with this issue and is found on page eight. Be sure to read it. We wish to thank Professor Carson for this contribution to the CHRISTIAN STATESMAN.

SCHENLEY SETS THE PACE FOR HOLIDAY LIQUOR SALES

Ignoring the fact that Christmas belongs to Christ, not to beverage alcohol, the pace for liquor advertising and sales for the holiday season is being set by Schenley Distillers which early in August launched "the most extensive retailer sales program in the history of the liquor business" and introduced a new line of gift decanters, including a polyethylene flask called the "Traveler," developed especially for one of its bourbon products.

According to Sidney E. Frank, Schenley president and general sales manager, the company is concentrating its sales efforts this year on retailers. One million dollars was billed for the company's distributor show which toured 200 cities during the month of September.

Mr. Frank estimated that Schenley would spend the enormous sum of about $7,500,000 to $8,000,000 in advertising *for the holiday season*, a single distiller's contribution toward turning a Christian festival into a baccanalia.

AN UNINTENDED CONFESSION

"It isn't what any product *is* that's of primary importance—it's what people *think* the product is that's vital. In other words, today's market is a state of mind. And our problem as advertisers is to get a bigger share of the American consumer's mind."

This is the function of liquor advertising as outlined by J. Gordon Baquie, executive vice-president of Brown-Forman Distillers Corp., in an address before the convention of the National Retail Liquor Package Stores Association.

"When a customer walks into your store and plunks down his money on your counter he's not just buying a bottle of whiskey. He's buying a lot more. He's buying many things that have nothing to do with the taste or color or aroma or flavor of that whiskey.

"He's buying a whole set of social and psychological symbols—he's buying something that's going to say something about him—that's going to mean something to him, in terms that have absolutely

nothing to do with the taste or flavor of the product."

Yes, Mr. Basquie, there is far more truth in your words than you ever intended. He's going to buy something alright, a whole bag of tricks, and what they'll do for him won't be worth a dime. There'll be promises galore, but they won't be kept. There'll be hopes undreamed of, but they won't be fulfilled. The lift anticipated will turn out to be a let-down. The distinction he seeks may be extinction in the end. No, he doesn't get what he *thinks* he's getting. And that means that the whole liquor business with all its advertising is based upon deception. It is still true as expressed in the wisdom of old—"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE EXPENDITURES AND CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS

The people of the United States spent a total of $10,099,000,000 (source: U. S. Dept of Commerce) for alcoholic beverages in 1955. During the same period, contributions by 48 Protestant and 2 eastern Orthodox bodies totaled $1,842,592,260—the highest in history (source: News Bulletin, National Council of Churches). But the amount spent for liquor was more than five times greater than the amount contributed to the churches. The church member per capita giving reached an all-time high of $53.94. But this is less than the per capita expenditure for the whole population for alcoholic beverages, which amounted to $61.48.

Church members do not give as much per capita to their churches as the nation as a whole spends per capita for liquor. It would be interesting, as well as quite an indictment, if it could be ascertained, how much per capita church members spend for alcoholic beverages. Undoubtedly, many of them are spending far more for liquor than they are contributing to the church to which they belong. If every church member in this country was a total abstainer, the liquor industry would collapse. It is still true "The liquor traffic would destroy the Church if it could, the Church could destroy the liquor traffic if it would."

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Contributions to the National Reform Association are deductible in computing income tax. As the year 1956 draws to a close many people are studying their income to determine how much they must pay Uncle Sam. Some will find they can increase their contributions at a cost to themselves of only a fraction of the amount given. The National Reform Association needs your support. If you have not contributed recently or can increase your gift, NOW would be a splendid time to send your check to the National Reform Association, 209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

A REVIEW OF THE YEAR PAST

As the Association brings to a close on October 31st, the 93rd year of its long and vigorous history, during which it has battled along the entire reform front for the cause of national righteousness and Christian government, it is able to report that it has experienced a relatively good year. Thousands of pieces of literature were given away free of cost—a service made possible by the gifts of those who support the Association and contribute to it. Four releases, dealing with liquor advertising were prepared, each of which was sent out to over three hundred religious and reform publications and temperance journals. Many of these carried the releases in their pages, resulting in many hundreds of requests coming to our office for information about what the writers could do to fight liquor advertising, how to join the Crusade Against Liquor Advertising, or for information about the "Sticker-On-A-Liquor-Ad" campaign.

Six issues of the CHRISTIAN STATESMEN were published. We have many letters in the office commending us for this publication. Some tell us that it contains information they are not able to obtain from any other source. Over 185,000 Liquor Facts Folders were sold or supplied free of cost during the year. Special folders were printed for five different states. These have been used in schools, churches, public meetings and for distribution from door to door.

The Executive Secretary experienced a life of constant activity involving a heavy load of work in the office plus thousands of miles of travel by car, bus, train and occasionally by air. He occupied a pulpit somewhere practically every Sabbath speaking in various churches. He interviewed many pastors, church workers and leaders in the field of temperance and other reforms. He participated actively in the work of the Pennsylvania Federated Legislative Committee which deals with moral reform issues in Pennsylvania. He participated in an interview with the Governor of Pennsylvania. He has conferred with various personnel of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board in Harrisburg, the U. S. Department of Commerce, the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Alcohol Tax Unit of the U. S. Treasury, the National Education Association, the Distilled Spirits Institute, the F.B.I., and with other groups in Washington, D.C. Last February he testified against liquor advertising before the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committees of both the House and the Senate in Washington. He has interviewed senators and representatives in their offices. He has participated in the work of the National Temperance and Prohibition Council. He has assisted local groups in opposing the issuance of liquor licenses and transfers before the local liquor control board.

With the year closing behind us, we look forward to the year ahead with the hope and prayer that it may be one in which the Association will be able to lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes. The problems which brought the Association into being are far from being solved. The issues are still with us, the work must therefore go on. The Bible says, "No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." The same principle holds for such an organization as the National Reform Association. Hence, we press on. God helping us, we can do no other.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS REPORT

(Concluded from page 3)

of beverage alcohol violates the law of God, corrupts law and government, promotes crime, adds to human suffering, wrecks homes, destroys lives, and are contributing factors to each major problem in the nation, we urge churches to strengthen and emphasize their educational and training program for the prevention of alcoholism, and school authorities to safeguard the children of our nation by giving them the truth about alcohol, what it is and what it does. We urge the review of text books being used in health and physiology classes in our public schools to determine whether the doctrine of total abstinence is being replaced by the dangerous teaching of moderation as related to alcoholic beverages. We pledge ourselves to the support of bills designed to eliminate all alcoholic beverage advertising from interstate commerce, and by all media which may cross state lines. We commend members of the Airline Pilots, Stewards and Stewardesses Associations for calling attention of the C A B to the menace to safety resulting from serving alcoholic beverages on airplanes and deplore the refusal of the C A B to act until it has proof of some fatal accident resulting from the serving of such drinks aloft. We commend those churches and other groups that have promoted commitment days and pledge signings against the use of alcoholic beverages and other harmful narcotics, in the belief that such commitments help safeguard individauls and strengthen youth to withstand the tremendous social pressure to accept and use such dangerous and harmful products.

III. Since the Bible is a non-sectarian book, belonging to the State as well as to the church, having had a great part in the history and development of our country, and since it is so essential to the welfare of our nation and to the development of character and good citizenship, we deplore the action of Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania, Elmer T. Bolla, in his recent ruling against the free distribution of New Testaments to those wishing to receive them, in the public schools by the Gideons, as contrary to the best of American tradition and the principle of the freedom of religion as guaranteed in the first amendment to the constitution. We will continue to oppose the attempts which are made to prohibit the reading of the Bible in our public schools and will seek to promote the reading of the Bible in all the schools of our nation in the belief that "the Book which made America should be read in the public schools upon which we depend to make Americans."

IV. Remembering that Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath," implying that if man is to have the Sabbath, it must be kept, we deplore the extent to which this day is being commercialized and secularized throughout our land. In every section of the nation are merchants who insist in taking advantages of the Lord's Day by using it as a time for "business as usual." Without the Christian Sabbath the Church is doomed. We therefore urge a return to a concern for the Lord's Day. We urge ministers to preach sermons against shopping, store-openings, secular meetings, sports events, rehearsals, and similar activities on the Lord's Day. We urge Christians to keep this day in a manner consistent with their Christian profession. We oppose the efforts being made to liberalize our Pennsylvania Sabbath laws, and urge constant vigilance to prevent inroads on the Sabbath by secularists, commercializers, tavern operators, theater managers, and others who would destroy the Sabbath for the sake of gain or pleasure.

V. Since God has "made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth," and since "there is neither Greek nor Jew, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all," there should therefore be equality of opportunity for all, regardless of race, economic background, religious tradition or geographic distribution. We therefore declare our agreement with, and support of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that segregation in the public schools is unconstitutional. We also recognize the complexity of implementing this decision and while we deplore the actions of extremists and radicals on either side of the question, we are looking towards early full and complete compliance.

VI. Since the purpose of the Association as set forth in the Charter is the "maintaining and promoting in our national life the Christian principles of civil government," and since Article II of our Constitution declares, among other objectives, the securing of "such an amendment to the Constitution of the United States as will declare the nation's allegiance to Jesus Christ," we therefore endorse the Christian Amendment and the work of the Christian Amendment Movement and commend the senators and representatives who introduced in the Senate and in the House during the 84th Congress, bills providing for a Christian Amendment. We pledge our cooperation in the continuing effort to

secure such an amendment to our national Constitution.

VII. Having enjoyed the happy fellowship of this evening together, we express our gratitude and thanks to each one who had a part in planinng this dinner and meeting, to Dr. C. Brainerd Metheny for his zestful leadership as toastmaster, to Miss Evelyn Martin for entertaining us so beautifully in song, to Dr. Donald A. Spencer for his enlightening message of the evening, and to all who have helped us here tonight to erect another milestone in the long history of this Association in the work of moral reform in our national life.

THE KINGSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST

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which finds its compelling motive in the spirit of a new life in Him.

This all-inclusive doctrine of the Kingship of Christ embraces every other doctrine of the Christian faith. It puts meaning into all our evangelistic and missionary endeavors and sends us out, not merely with a man-centered passion for souls, but with a Christ-centered passion to tell men about our Lord so that they may know Him, and observe to do all things whatsoever He has commanded. It sends us out to seek reformation in our social and national life with a Bible-centered Christ-exalting application of the Gospel to society with the purpose of having His Kingship honored in every area of life.

In fighting the liquor traffic, in seeking the preservtion of the Christian Sabbath, in laboring to maintain a place for the Bible in public education, and in working in behalf of other causes along the reform front, the compelling motive must ever be the honor of Christ.

It is the desire to honor Him that motivates us in seeking His recognition in the fundamental law of our land. We so labor because we believe that theocracy is the only sure foundation for democracy. When democracies are established on other bases—man-centered—such as "Like equality by nature, natural rights, man's fullest development, the greatest good for the greatest number," without any recognition of the rights of God, they are built upon the sand.

It is only on the basis of the Eternal King that democracy can maintain its life and go on to full strength. The Kingship of Christ has smashed tryannies of the past. In that Kingship is our hope for the present and for the future. Liberty, freedom, human rights and privileges are assured only when we build on the truth. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'

Christians have been committed with the task of transforming the world, but it must be transformed "according to the pattern shown on the Mount." It must be built according to the purposes of God.

Our Christian Faith is immensely relevant to social reform in our day, relevant because the total world-view concepts which are derived from the Word of God are the only concepts adequate to a world in need. With His help and for His glory may we strive to declare His purposes so that all our efforts toward the moral reformation of our society and nation will be in accord with the Divine Standard.

TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS HELD BY THE CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

The California Christian Citizens Association, an affiliate of the National Reform Association, reports on two recent meetings. The first meeting was a conference held in the First Baptist Church of Los Angeles on the evening of November 9th for the purpose of hearing Leonard W. Hummel, Consultant in Elementary Education in the offices of Dr. C. C. Trillingham, Superintendent of Los Angeles County Schools discuss the findings developed during 1955-56 from the five Teachers' Institutes held during the school year.

The topic of the evening was "Moral and Spiritual Elements Encountered in classrooms of Los Angeles County teachers during 1955-1956."

Each of the five institutes, involving hundreds of Los Angeles County teachers, considered factors of moral and spiritual concern encountered by these teachers during the school year.

The meeting was arranged by Dr. A. Q. Burns, Los Angeles educator, who stated the purpose of the meeting.

The second meeting was the eleventh annual dinner meeting of the Association which was held in the United Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, Friday evening, November 16th. Dr. Harold Scott, pastor of the host church gave the invocation.

The following honor guests and their wives were introduced: Rev. Wesley Roloff, President of the Santa Ana Council of Churches; Rev. Herman Rosenberg, President of the Santa Ana Ministers' Fellowship; Dr. Walter Penner, Executive Director of the Southwest Regional N.A.E.; M. R. A. Rhodes of the Christian Educator's Fellowship; and Mrs. Ruth Gates Miller, President of the Southern California W.C.T.U.

There were two addresses. The first was by Rev. David Calderwood, pastor of Greyfriars Memorial Church, Los Angeles, who spoke on "What We Are Trying To Do And Why." The second was by Dr. Walter Penner, who spoke on "The Place of the Bible in the Life of Our Nation."

Dr. Walter McCarroll, President of the Association, reports that it was a good meeting and that there were eighty-two persons present.

From the Study Window

DAVID M. CARSON

Head of the Department of Political Science, Geneva College

Is religion purely an individual matter? Or do God and society, God and government, have something to do with each other?

To this latter question, many would say, "No."

There is the devoted Christian who is so aware that God through Jesus Christ has saved him from his sins that he sees in God's plan only a concern for other individuals similarly lost.

There is the "Sunday" Christian who has never faced the possibility that God has anything to do even with his own conduct in his "secular" life.

There is the "stained-glass Christian," for whom religion is only a dim, religious light that has nothing to do with objective standards of behavior.

There is the ordinary American citizen who says, "Religion is free. You have yours and I have mine. But keep it all out of politics." It honestly never occurs to him to wonder whether the God whom he worships is concerned with national life.

In fact, the climate of contemporary American opinion suggests that God is a kindly, if distant, grandfather; to be appealed to for grants from his infinite billfold, but otherwise to be safely ignored.

This is an important question. For if these answers are right, of course the National Reform Association is useless. The foundation of our activity is in the belief that nations, like individuals, owe to God an obligation of right belief and right conduct. If these answers are right, the words "under God" recently added to the pledge of allegiance to the American flag are useless nonsense. If these answers are right, the Christian can have no hope in the ultimate victory of God's righteousness in the world.

Can we demonstrate Scripturally that God is concerned with the life of nations and that nations, owe obedience to God?

We think, in answer, of the inspired history of the Jewish people. In all the events of their national life, God was present, leading, blessing, warning, punishing:

> The Lord spake unto Joshua, "Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan."
>
> And the Lord said to Samuel, ". . . make them a king."
>
> Thus said the Lord God of Israel, ". . . I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon."
>
> Therefore thus saith the Lord, "I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, . . . into the hand of the king of Babylon's army."

The prophets are like the ominous clanging of a great gong as they ring the changes on the theme: "The Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land; because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land."

Even the psalter, the devotional book of the Bible, is concerned with national life! The second psalm begins, "Why do the nations rage?" The 149th psalm ends with the promise of just punishment to nations which reject God.

At the end of the Bible, there is a description of the New Jerusalem, the perfect society, and we read: "And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it; and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it."

Surely God is concerned with the life of the nation, as with the life of the individual. It is our urgent duty as Christians to consider God's will for the nation and how it can be most effectively carried out.

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION (incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania),

FORM OF BEQUEST

the sum of ..... dollars (.....)

(In case a testator wishes to leave some particular asset or piece of property instead of a sum of money he can do so by inserting a clear and sufficient description of it in place of words "the sum of," etc.)